

Veterans Home News

VOL. 14, NO. 1

VETERANS HOME FOUNDATION • CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI

SUMMER 2006

MVH staff recognized for Nursing Home Week

Rather than hold smaller recognition events for individual Veterans Home departments throughout the year, all staff in all departments were recognized with a week filled with events during National Nursing Home Week May 14-20.

All employees were given a stainless steel travel mug with the Missouri Veterans Commission logo on one side and the words, "I'm an appreciated member of a professional team serving Missouri's Veterans" on the other side.

Monday of the week was "hugs, hamburgers, & fixins" day for all employees. Tuesday was "coffee cake roll call" day and also featured wheelchair races. Wednesday the theme was "nachos and cheese cha cha" with a clothes folding contest.

On Thursday an "ice cream cheer social" was held with a screw driving contest. The finale was Friday afternoon of Nursing Home Week with a program in the afternoon in the dining room.

The colors were posted by the Charleston Army Junior ROTC color guard. Brief employee recognition speeches were delivered by Cape Girardeau County Circuit Clerk Charles



This Army Junior ROTC color guard from Charleston High School are shown ready to post the colors at the start of the Friday afternoon National Nursing Home employee recognition finale.

Hutson and David Hess of Ford and Sons Funeral Homes. Hutson is also active on the MVH golf committee and the Foundation Board which oversees spending of donated funds to the home and the Perpetual Trust fund. Hutson

currently is president of the eleven-member Foundation Board.

The afternoon also featured a Veterans Home cheerleading presentation and refreshments.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 3

To our friends and supporters

by Jan Rau



Hello everyone! I know you all are interested in our renovation process so let me share that our Special Care Unit is back to full census. We had taken possession of C100 and the work is done on C200 hall. While we had planned to move back onto this unit on June 26, we received notice on June 23 that some of the floor tile that has been put down is defective. We decided not to move our residents back onto C200 hall until the tile has been replaced. The replacement of defective tile will more than likely delay our building project by about a month so we will be celebrating its finish at Christmas instead of Thanksgiving this year. We are still

Friends, see page 6

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Golf tourney again beats last year's profit

All accounting is not complete to the penny, but the tournament secretary, Ken Lipps, estimates the 10th annual event will raise close to \$42,000 - up around \$4,000 from last year - mostly earmarked for the Perpetual Trust Fund.

The big boost was the \$5,205 from the Outback Steakhouse Sunday dinner fundraiser. Golf Committee sold tickets, Outback provided a buffet dinner... and 100% of ticket sales went to the Veterans Home through the golf tournament; making Outback a Corporate Benefactor with Kohlfeld Distributing/Schindler's Tavern's Kowpasture Classic. The Classic provided \$5,500 to the

Veterans Home through the golf tournament.

The net from the golf tournament in 1997 was \$7,005.32... a six fold growth over ten years.

The tenth annual Flag Day Benefit Golf Tournament was held where it originated, at Bent Creek Golf Club in Jackson.

Harold Moore was Tournament Chairman for the second year, with Ron Bolinger Co-Chairman. Neal Edwards, founder and chairman of the event for eight years, stepped down after the 2005 event, when he was named Founder and Chairman Emeritus. Edwards contin-

ues to lead the way in producing tournament sponsors as a golf committee member.

Other members are Pete Rhodes, Caryn Michel, Charles Hutson, David Crader, Ray Drury, Bob Williams, Ralph Ebersole and Dick Decker.

Twenty-seventh District State Senator Jason Crowell served as Honorary Co-Chairman and welcomed players and thanked sponsors for their support of the Veterans Home. The Senator visited with several Veterans Home residents who came for lunch and the

Golf Tournament, see page 2



**Veterans Home Newspaper
2400 Veterans Memorial Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701**

VETERANS HOME NEWS

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Masonic Service Association.....Euil Trickey
MSA Deputy Rep.Doyle Mouser
American Legion Auxiliary..... Barbara Yallaly
VFW Auxiliary.....Jewell Lincecum
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MANAGEMENT TEAM

Jan Rau, M.S. Administrator
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Dr. Kennett Asher, DO..... Facility Physician
Maria Hanschen, BSN,RNC..... Director of Nursing
Sarah Goodin, RN.....Nursing Unit Manager
Sherri Oxford, RNNursing Unit Manager
Jean Sherrill, RN.....Nursing Unit Manager
Ruthann Lewis, RNNursing Supervisor
Sherri Montgomery, RN.....Nursing Supervisor
Sue Peoples, BSN, MSNursing Supervisor
Ellen Willis, RNNursing Supervisor
Scott Whitsel, RNNursing Supervisor
Clemmie Geiser.....Housekeeping Supervisor
Lana Goodin, BSN, RN.....Staff Development Coordinator
Vanessa Smith, CDM.....Food Service Manager
Art Cox..... Plant Maintenance Engineer
Lori Hayden, MSW, LCSWClinical Social Worker I
Ken Lipps, BA.....Volunteers/Public Relations/Fund Raising
Lori Launhardt, CMAAccountant II
Cassie Zeilenga Recreation Director
Dennis Todd, CBBPPurchasing Dept. Head
Renee Hesselrode, ARTMedical Records Supervisor
Victoria Scherer, PTTHead Physical Therapy
Holly Lovel, MTJ..... Personnel
The Rev. Lou LaunhardtChaplain Coordinator
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1. Military Active Duty discharge status other than dishonorable.
2. Require some level of long-term health care.
3. Missouri resident 180 days at some time during life.

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VETERAN NEWS

Golf Tournament, from page 1j2

opening ceremonies.

Honorary Co-Chairman 8th Congressional District Representative Jo Ann Emerson was out of the country and sent Judy Thrower from her district office to welcome and thank players and sponsors.

Veterans Home Administrator Jan Rau spoke briefly, pointing to the wide wheelchair medical appointments/activities lift van which was on display at the tournament.

Rau noted that interest from the Perpetual Trust - built mostly on golf tournament profits - was needed to put a fundraising effort for the much needed van over the top.

Members of the Chip-a-Ways Ladies Golf Association again helped run the tournament as they have since 1997. David Hitt again made golf cart sponsor signs and Outback tickets.



The Allen Laws Oliver Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution again posted the Colors for the brief golf tournament opening ceremonies before start of play.



Golf Tournament chairman Harold Moore presents an appreciation plaque to Jason and Jenny Grojean, owners of Schindler's Tavern, for the several years of donations from the Kowpasture Klassic



Kohlfeld Distributing Accounts Manager Mitch Miller, second from left, presents a \$5,500 Kowpasture Klassic profits donation check for the Veterans Home to Flag Day Golf Tournament Chairman Harold Moore. At far left is tournament Founder and Chairman Emeritus Neal Edwards. Tournament committee Co-Chairman Ron Bollinger is at far right. The Klassic also produced a major donation for the Kenny Rogers Children's Center in Sikeston.



Jason Crowell, Missouri District 27 State Senator, greeted the golfers, visitors and Veterans Home residents at the tournament. Crowell was Honorary Co-Chairman.



Eighth District Representative in Congress, Jo Ann Emerson, was Honorary Co-Chairman of the tournament. Emerson was out of the country and was represented by Judy Thrower from the Emerson Cape Girardeau office.



The wide lift medical appointments/activities van on display at the golf tournament. The van fund raising drive shortfall of \$10,000 was covered last fall with interest money from the Perpetual Trust, which is mainly supported by the Flag Day Benefit Golf Tournament.



Golf tournament founder and chairman emeritus, Neal Edwards, presents Kohlfeld Distributing Accounts Manager, Mitch Miller, a recognition plaque for the several years of donations from the Kowpasture Klassic.

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Nursing Home Week photos



This four by sixteen foot sign on the front of the highway overlook shelter greeted employees during National Nursing Home Week. KFSV-TV opened a Heartland Health news feature story with a shot of the sign and some coverage of events at the Veterans Home.



Several Veterans Home cheerleaders performing at the Friday finale of National Nursing Home Week activities.



David Hess of Ford and Sons Funeral Homes recognized employees at the National Nursing Home Week finale. Hess noted how the Hero's Homecoming ceremony held in the MVH lobby when a deceased resident's remains are removed from the home shows the deep care and concern all MVH employees have for residents.



Cape Girardeau Circuit Clerk Charles Hutson speaking to Veterans Home employees at the National Nursing Home Week finale.

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Edwards wins major award

Veterans Home Golf Tournament Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Neal Edwards, was selected for the prestigious "Spirit of America" award by one of the major daily newspapers in Missouri, the Cape Girardeau "Southeast Missourian."

Edwards was selected from a field of other outstanding nominees for a lifetime of service to others, from his dangerous WWII duties as a combat engineer in the China-Burma-India Campaign to his 40+ years of service to his church, civic, fraternal, and Veteran groups to SEMO University, the Chamber of Commerce, United Way, and to the Veterans Home.

As the nominating entity, the Veterans Home was awarded \$1,000 donation. As a member of the



Veterans Home Foundation Board, Edwards will help determine the best use of that money for the residents.

Donation presented



VFW Auxiliary Department of Missouri President Jackie Davis of Troy presents a \$150 donation check to the Veterans Home accepted for the home by Jewell Lincecum, VFWA Home Representative.

Also pictured and on hand to greet their state president are members of Jackson VFW Auxiliary Unit 10495 and Cape Girardeau Unit 3838.

Our "bloomin best" get dinners for two at the home of Bloomin' Onions!

The following Veterans Home employees best demonstrated a compassionate and caring attitude for residents and near perfect attendance. They win dinner for two **DONATED BY OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE:**

April: Bonita Brock, Nursing & Clemmie Geiser, Housekeeping
May: Margaret George, Nursing & Tom Smith, Housekeeping
June: April Chiles, Nursing & Tex Tittle, Laundry

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Donations April 1 - June 30

American Legion Post 114, Sikeston: \$300 donation.
 Disabled Veterans Associations, Rocky River, OH: \$300 donation.
 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 114, Sikeston: \$1,500 donation.
 DAV Chapter 47, Dexter: \$800 donation.
 Military Order of the Purple Heart Auxiliary to Chapter 115, Kansas City: \$50 donation.
 Eagles Aerie 3775, Cape Girardeau: \$1,340 donation.
 Family and Friends of Dave Koehler: Memorial Donations.
 David Willer, Jackson: \$50 donation.

Ella Marie Friese, Cape Girardeau: \$20 donation.
 Lynn & Kay Mattingly, Dexter: \$25 donation.
 Nelda Hicks, Fredericktown: \$100 donation.
 VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Missouri: \$150 donation.
 VFW Auxiliary Unit 5368, Morley: \$200 donation.
 VFW Post 3174, Sikeston: \$2,370 donation.
 American Legion Post 133, Perryville: \$50.50 donation.
 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 416, Farmington: \$150 donation.

AMVETS Post 94, Perryville: \$300 donation.
 Family and Friends of Dale Hartle: Memorial donations.
 Family and Friends of Ben Ashley: Memorial donations.
 Carl & Mary McLain, Cape Girardeau: \$25 donation.
 Family and Friends of Elvis Hoffman: Memorial donations.
 American Legion Post 158, Jackson: \$1,500 donation.
 Lamplighters FCE Club, Cape County: 250 clothing protectors.
 VFW Post 2368, Malden: \$400 donations.

VFW Post 3416, Wappapello: \$100 donation.
 Marine Corps League Detachment 1081 Auxiliary: \$50 donation.
 VFW Post 4282, Perryville: \$2,500 donation.
 VFW Post 3838, Cape Girardeau: \$1,300 donation.
 VFW Post 4294, Charleston: \$50 donation.
 VFW Post 3127, Chaffee: \$50 donation.
 Floyd Asberry/Melba Taylor and Family: \$1,600 donation.
 DAV Auxiliary Unit 47, Dexter: \$200 donation.

The E.T. says score is 8 to 5!

Euil Trickey describes himself as "The E.T" and his 85 years by saying, "I'm ahead eight to five!" For the past 16 of those years he has been Home Representative of the Masonic Service Association volunteer program at the Veterans Home.

Trickey is pictured above, at left, at a surprise 85th birthday party put together by his MSA volunteers.

Six months before the Veterans Home opened in the spring of 1990, Trickey, Al Mason and the late Ray Ritchie and Walter Haynie started their volunteer work by helping put state identification number tags on all equipment and furniture coming into the home.

After the home opened Trickey

recruited more volunteers and the MSA generally took over the duties of passing ice and water, delivering the mail and running the canteen several days a week. Many also helped with activities and outings and even drove residents to medical appointments. This spring the total MSA volunteer hours served at the Veterans Home passed 100,000.

In failing health, Trickey, a WWII Veteran, was on the waiting list for a bed at the home and after several months before a bed became available in May.

Most of his MSA leadership and recruiting duties have been taken over by the MSA Deputy Home Representative Doyle Mouser.



The E.T., Euil Trickey, is pictured at left.

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Veterans Commission Employee of the Month for April

Angie Sitzes, Certified Medical Technician, was selected as the Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month for April! Sitzes was selected from the over 1,600 Veterans Commission employees statewide. A reception was held on April 13th for Angie, with Ron Taylor (with Angie in the photo) Executive Director of the Missouri Veterans Commission and Superintendent of Homes Anne Payne attending to thank and honor Angie.

Administrator Jan Rau said, "It is wonderful to see such an outstanding



employee being recognized by the Commission for her work in this facility."



Outstanding Veterans Home supporter

Almaretta Rhodes, a member of Cape Girardeau VFW Auxiliary Unit 3838, was recently presented a plaque by the Veterans Home in recognition of selling over \$25,000 in raffle and other tickets for various needs at the home.

Donation income generated by Rhodes has, among other things, supported the Perpetual Trust Fund, helped purchase a liquid oxygen system, a commercial cooker/smoker, an activities/outings van and bus and other items over several years.

Family Comments

We are proud of our outstanding team of highly dedicated and skilled employees in all departments who honor our Veterans through superior nursing home care. Here are some recent comments from family members

"Thank you for the beautiful plant. Thanks to the employees for the good care they gave Alvin. He is at peace now; and in a much better place than we are. We loved him dearly, but couldn't wish for him back in the condition he was in."

- Mrs. Nelda Hicks and Family

"In all my life I've never met so many kind, loving, caring people as those at the Veterans Home. Special kind of people are only found occasionally. Hank and I found them all and found many new friends at the Veterans Home. Thank you all!"

- Mrs. Henry (Marie) Creighton

"Thank you so much for the peace lily plant and also for the care and consideration the past two years."

- Sharon Farrell and the family of J.R. Watson

"On behalf of my mother and brothers Bob and Jim, thank you for the beautiful peace lily in Dad's memory. Thank you for your care for him."

- Pat Tooke Moore for the family of Howard Tooke

"We would like to thank each and every one of you for all the hard work, love and support you showed Ben during his stay. We love the home, residents and employees of the Veterans Home. Our family will continue to visit and support you all. He had a beautiful Hero's Homecoming ceremony from his Veteran friends and staff. The plant was beautiful. God bless."

- The Ben Henry Ashley family

"Thank you to the administration and staff for the excellent care given to Herman (Dale) Hartle. We will always treasure your caring, concern and friendship. The Hero's Homecoming ceremony was very impressive, and Dale would have been honored that so many fellow Veterans, employees and others were there for his final departure. Dale enjoyed bingo even though others had to help watch his cards due to his poor vision, but he was excited when he won. Please accept my monetary gift for a special bingo session in Dale's memory. The other memorials are for the Caregiver and Indigent Fund. Thank you for the peace lily plant. The lush green leaves and white blooms are a reminder of a new life. God's blessings be with you all."

- Naomi Hartle and Family



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Sixth Vets & Friends Run another success

The 7 May Vets and Friends Run/Bike Show/Antique Car Show/Antique Tractor Show/Auction and Barbecue again drew hundreds of Veterans Home residents, family members, guests, employees, bikers and other visitors for a Sunday afternoon of fun and activities.

And, the event put \$3,930.12 in an account used to purchase items needed by individual Veterans Home residents. This money is in addition to items purchased by bikers prior to Christmas each year with proceeds from their calendar sales and other donations.

A new addition to this year's Run was a display by the Egypt Mills Antique Tractor Club. A blessing of the bikes ceremony was also added this year.

The event was started by Tom McGowan and Cheri Parsons of T and C Motorcycle Parts of Benton and the Vietnam Vets Motorcycle Club Chapter F.



One of the more interesting of the hundreds of bikes on display at the Vets & Friends Run.



A Veterans Home resident looking over some of the cars on display from members of the Capaha Antique Car Club at the Vets & Friends Run.



A major fundraiser at the Vets and Friends Run is the auction of donated items. Auctioneer Tom Jones is shown conducting the auction.



A display by the Egypt Mills Antique Tractor Club at the Vets & Friends Run drew quite a bit of attention; especially from Veterans Home residents, many of whom can remember the vintage tractors when they were used on farms.



Veterans Home residents and others go through the food line at the Vets and Friends Run. Members of Cape Elks Lodge 639 are in the background barbecuing the brats and hot dogs.

Friends, see page 1

planning our annual family Thanksgiving meal. The roof replacement project has been let out to bid and we anticipate the beginning of that work by the end of summer. Thank you for all your patience with us as our staff and residents move to different places in the building. We have attempted to make sure everyone was kept in the communication loop but it has been a challenge!

Along with our challenges, we've had some great things to enjoy this last quarter.

This spring we began the Legacy Project which was sponsored by Ford and Sons Funeral Home. The project is a scrapbook of wonderful memories of each resident's life. These can be as

large or as small as each resident would like. All the resources for these legacy books was supplied including a laser scanner/printer and personnel who are available to work with residents and family members. This has been an enjoyable project for everyone.

Our annual survey done in June this year resulted in no deficiencies. I am proud of all our staff who have worked so tirelessly through this renovation period and have made sure each resident received the same great care that we have come to expect. A 4% cost of living raise was given to each employee along with an additional 8% adjustment for our licensed nursing staff. This support from Governor Blunt and our legislators goes a long way to ensure that we are able to recruit and retain quality staff.



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WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR US LATELY VETERAN?

Former Marine Pfc. Bill Lufcy, now a resident of the Missouri Veterans Home at Cape Girardeau, has lived a life of many extremes. At one point he was on duty in our nation's capital, sharp in his Marine dress blues and combat ribbons, part of an honor guard for former President Franklin D. Roosevelt. At another point he was on Bloody Ridge in Guadalcanal, being attacked by a howling mob of frenzied Japanese soldiers intent on running their bayonets through him, in one of the first banzai attacks of World War II.

Today, for Pfc. Lufcy, the trumpets of war are silent. He has kind, skilled persons caring for him, pleasant surroundings and good food not at all like the horrible combat rations he got in Guadalcanal.

Bill Lufcy, is one of the remaining Marines who landed on Guadalcanal in September 1942 in an effort to stop the raging Japanese army and navy from cutting off supply lines to our great ally, Australia.

Bill began life on a small farm near Zalma, in Bollinger County. While he was still a little boy, his father was killed by the tongs used to gather up hay from a wagon. He and his mother and brothers later moved to Crowder, near Sikeston.

Jobs were scarce during the Depression, and his mother struggled to support her family. She found work as a sewing machine operator on a WPA project at Vanduser. The family always remembered her dedication in walking three miles to work every morning, and three miles back to her family every night. Bill may have inherited that determination, and he would need it in the days to come.

As soon as he was old enough, Bill went to work at the limestone quarry and cement factory at Cape Girardeau. He heard he might soon be drafted so he decided to learn what advantages there might be to enlisting.

Bill chose the Marines. He left in September 1941 for boot camp in California. He qualified as a pistol marksman and rifle sharpshooter. He was front-line material for a war about to begin.

Some of our Marines had been practicing an amphibious assault in Chesapeake Bay. They then sailed down to the Panama Canal and up to San Diego. There the 5th Marines and the 1st Marines were fleshed out with new men, and Bill boarded a ship with his new comrades. They were headed for New Zealand, more training and the pretty girls and wild bars of Wellington, when fate stepped in.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur had been ordered out of the Philippines, leaving his men there to be captured, and now was engaged in a rivalry game with the Navy. He was an old hand at this, and bargained hard to get the only other infantry troops he could get - the Marines. He asked for a division of Marines and two Navy aircraft carriers. In

Washington, Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King realized he had to put his Navy and Marines to work soon or his best fighters would be taken over by MacArthur.

Our Navy already was reading the Japanese naval code and had sunk four Japanese aircraft carriers at Midway - an unexpected great victory. So MacArthur argued that the Japanese Navy was no longer a potent threat, and he should have those Marines and carriers. King was sure that our enemy was planning to use an obscure island called Guadalcanal on their way to blockade and attack Australia. The Navy won that round. Our military chiefs in Washington ordered the invasion of Guadalcanal.

The Marines in New Zealand hastily prepared to invade. They didn't get much help locally in loading their ships, and they were loaded all wrong. Tanks and other equipment they would need in a landing were down at the bottom of their transports, along with most other vital supplies needed to seize the island. Nothing could be unloaded quickly.

The American fleet showed up at dawn on Sept. 7, 1942 completely surprising a Japanese construction force busily building an airstrip on Guadalcanal. The Japanese and their Korean slaves fled into the nearby crocodile-infested swamps, and very few survived.

After two days of hectic, haphazard unloading, the Marines were abandoned by the Navy. It had lost one of its four aircraft carriers in the Coral Sea and another at Midway. They steamed away, leaving the valiant Marines stranded with very few supplies. They had a 10-day supply of ammunition, very little food, and no heavy equipment to complete the badly-needed airstrip.

The Japanese had left behind one bulldozer, six Chevy trucks, and the picks and shovels used by their slaves. The enterprising Marines did find something to eat - rice. They dined on rice for many weeks, rice for breakfast, rice for lunch and supper. Hordes of mosquitoes bit the men while they did what they could on the airstrip, to be called Henderson Field. There was no quinine or atropine to fend off malaria.

The Marines were not attacked for several days. The furious Japanese were busily scouring all the nearby Pacific islands, rounding up enough soldiers to retake Guadalcanal. One regiment soon arrived from Guam, and another from Rabaul, where they'd been getting ready to invade New Guinea.

Our code-crackers told U.S. Marines where

the Japanese were going to make their first attack. The Marines worked hard to hack a trail through the thick jungle, lugging their mortars up to Mt. Austin, a ridge four miles south of Henderson Field. After the terrible battles there, this hill would be known as Bloody Ridge.

At 4 a.m. on Sept. 19, the Japanese burst out of the jungle, shrieking and howling.

It was a pitiful, insane tactic they had designed hoping to scare Chinese soldiers. The Marines did not flinch. They were

wide awake, ready and well-supplied with machine guns. In the first two battles there, they killed all of the poor, ignorant Japanese banzai troops.

Bill Lufcy later told his friends back home that he had never seen so many dead Japanese soldiers. Nobody had. The fighting kept on, though, for many months. On Nov. 30, Bill was standing up, firing his automatic rifle, when he felt a tug on his fatigue pants. He had been hit.

After the fighting died down, his friends summoned the Navy corpsmen. They cut away his pants, applied sulfa powder, then stitched and bandaged him to slow down the bleeding. Bill had to be seen at the division hospital, down by Henderson Field. Any vehicles available were being used to haul vital ammunition and infantry replacements up the trail to Bloody Ridge. So Bill, and the rest of the walking wounded, had to make it to the hospital on their own. He hobbled along, using his rifle as a crutch.

There wasn't any regular anesthetic at the hospital, only local shots to deaden the pain. Two doctors worked on Bill, cutting out the first stitches, snipping torn flesh, probing for shrapnel, and finally sewing him back up. Bill had one night of rest behind the lines. The next day, as one of the walking wounded, he was "volunteered" to hobble back up the trail to Bloody Ridge to rejoin his comrades. He and the other bandaged men did not complain. Their friends still needed help. General Vandegrift later commented that on Guadalcanal, "uncommon virtue was common."

The navy finally was able to come back. Ships brought the Marines their supplies, and Henderson Field was completed, ready for its first airplanes. The Army sent a National Guard regiment from North Dakota. A second Guard regiment came from Ohio, and then a division from Hawaii. But the Japanese kept sending in more men, too, finally a whole Japanese army.

After six months, our Marines had lost about two-thirds of their men, either killed

or struck down by dysentery or malaria. When the exhausted Marines finally could leave Guadalcanal, our grateful Navy had to station sailors at the top of the ropes to help lift them onto transports.

The Marines kept getting more recruits, and the 1st Marines were fleshed out in Australia and sent back for the next terrible island fight, the seizure of Bougainville. But a Navy doctor, examining Bill's battered leg, decided he should be sent back to the States in late 1943.

The Marines at San Diego sent Pfc. Lufcy on to a plush duty post - the Navy Yard at Washington D.C. There Bill would become a spit-and-polish Marine, the kind you'd see on a poster, wearing dress blues and ribbons.

President Roosevelt was in poor health, and in early 1944, while Bill was at the Navy Yard, the President suffered a fatal cerebral hemorrhage. He died at Warm Springs, Ga., but his family knew he wanted to be buried at his home in Hyde Park, N.Y. - just north of New York City, on the Hudson River.

World War II was still going on. Families all over the country were receiving telegrams about their dear ones. Mrs. Roosevelt said that FDR would not have wanted a great, showy funeral ceremony in Washington. She arranged a short ceremony, with FDR lying in state for one day at the White House, with a Marine honor guard. Pfc. Bill Lufcy was chosen to be part of that elite guard. During the night he served at the White House, in honor of his commander-in-chief. The next day the President's funeral train left for New York.

Bill stayed at the Navy Yard until his discharge. He received five cents a mile to go home, and home he went, right back to Southeast Missouri, a bemedaled hero. He returned to work at the cement plant. A pretty girl came to see him from Washington, but the romance didn't work out, and she traveled back. Eventually, though, Bill did marry another pretty girl. Their marriage ended without children.

But Bill loved his brothers' children and his cousins, and cheerfully became part of their lives. He retired in his 60's and spent some happy time at a cabin near Lake Wappapello.

Bill is 86 years old now. He can eat rice without complaining. And he is still proud of his fellow Marines from those long-ago battles on Guadalcanal.

Note: Mr. Lufcy died after this biography was written. It is our policy to publish the information posthumously, but leave the tense in first person, even though the Veteran is now in the service of his Supreme Commander.



Pfc. Bill Lufcy, USMC, at attention on Guadalcanal shortly after his Purple Heart was pinned on him in early 1943.

Large crowd again at annual Recognition Dinner/Bingo Bash

A large number of Veterans Home employees and spouses or significant others attended the 2006 Employee Recognition Dinner/Bingo Bash as guests of the home management team, VFW Post 3838 and Post Home manager Pete Rhodes.

Employees gave themselves a well-deserved standing ovation as administrator Jan Rau congratulated the staff on continuing to keep all standards of care as high as ever even through the extensive renovation.

Rau recognized the part played by all departments for their contribution to outstanding care for our residents shown by focusing on what can be done rather than the inconvenience of the renovation.

Administrator Jan Rau announced Sherri Montgomery was elected Employee of the Year, Rayanne Meyers and Lana Brawley were tied as for Star of the Year honors. Angie Sitzes was named the quarterly Leadership Award winner. Past quarter winners were Clemmie Geiser, Dennis Todd and Michele Schabbing.

Since the Employee-of-the-Year started in 1994 there have been thirteen elected. Counting Employee-of-the-Year for 2004, Sherri Montgomery, ten of the thirteen are still employed at the Veterans Home. They are: Bonnie Miller, Madonna West, Darrel Friese, Daniel Dansby, Lois Withers, David Holshouser, Sherri Oxford, Vivian Barks and Vickie Scherer.

Employees passing five, ten and fifteen year employment milestones were recognized as were those with perfect attendance.

Passing five years were Carolyn Fiedler,



Lana Brawley holds her Star Employee of the Year award for 2005. Co-Winner Rayanne Meyers was not present when photos were taken.

Bertha Foster, Darrell Friese, Lori Launhardt, Cathy Martin, Ed McCalip, Pauline McCoy, Robyn Rasche, Gerald Sear and Tex Tittle.

With ten years of service reached during the past year were Eddie Brooks, Janie Chappell, Becky Hoover, Sharon Nelson, Mary Spurlock and Cassie Zeilenga.

Reaching fifteen years of service were Vivian Barks, Carolyn Dodds, Fannie Farrow, Patsy Gibson, Maria Hanschen, Lori Hayden, Sherri Oxford, Dottie Retherford, Vickie Scherer, Karon Schmidt, Sharon Simpkins, Paulette Stone, Linda Watkins and Carolyn



Employee of the Year Sherri Montgomery holds her recognition plaque. Montgomery was also the lucky winner of the 50/50 fundraising drawing held by NAGNA CNAIS. Montgomery, an RN who relies heavily on the work of the CNA'S donated her winnings back to the NAGNA CNA fund.

Welker.

Employees enjoyed a great dinner courtesy of Post 3838 and Pete Rhodes, two bingo sessions with \$600 in cash prizes and drawings for \$20 every ten minutes during the two bingo sessions.

Several prizes, including gift certificates were donated for the event by the family of the late Dave Koehler who had lived at the Veterans Home.

Funds from the cash prizes comes primarily from donations to the Caregiver



In addition to seeing that VFW Post 3838 provides their hall and most of the food for the recognition night, Pete Rhodes serves on the Golf Tournament Committee and helps the home and residents in many ways. Pete holds a sweater presented to him as a token of thanks. On the sleeve was embroidered, Pete Rhodes, a special friend of the Missouri Veterans Home.

Enhancement Fund mostly made by family members of deceased residents to show appreciation to the entire staff for the outstanding care their loved ones were given at the Veterans Home. Fundraising activities by the employees also add to the fund.

The home management team sets up, serves sodas and chips and cleans up after the event.



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Lamplighters FCE deliver clothing protectors



Several members of the Lamplighters Family and Community Education Club delivered the third and final batch of clothing protectors they made. The club raised \$325 and got a \$175 grant for materials and made 240 clothing protectors to specifications the Veterans Home has found the vast majority of residents prefer.

Two New Members elected to Board



Two new members were elected to the Veterans Home Foundation Board. Standing, from left, are Bob Basler of Cape Girardeau, treasurer and Bruce Austin, Charleston, board member. Seated is Charles Hutson of Jackson, current board president.

The eleven-member board oversees the spending of all donations and supervises the home's Perpetual Trust Fund.

Other members are Wayne Maupin,

Jackson, vice-president; secretary Glenneta Voglesang, Betty E. Cato, Lois Woodford and Neal Edwards, all of Cape Girardeau; David Crader, Perryville; Jim Harnes, Advance and Senator Rob Mayer of Dexter.

Euil Trickey of Cape Girardeau is an honorary member, with Administrator Jan Rau and management team members Lori Launhardt and Ken Lipps advisory members.

Legion National Commander visits



While visiting the Veterans Home National American Commander Bock was interviewed by Mike Shain, news anchor for the area CBS affiliate KFVS-TV, channel 12.

Thomas L. Bock, of Colorado, National Commander of the American Legion spent well over an hour at the Veterans Home touring the facility and visiting with residents and staff on an April visit to Cape Girardeau.

In a letter to Administrator Jan Rau following his visit the National Commander said, "I appreciated the opportunity to tour your great facility and discuss mutual concerns for Veterans and their families. The American Legion continues to work with Congress, other Veterans' organizations and the Veterans Administration to improve Veterans' benefits for living Veterans and families of deceased Veterans."

In speaking at Cape Girardeau American Legion Post 63, Bock, an Air Force Veteran of the Vietnam-era, was quoted by writer Rudi Keller in the Cape Girardeau "Southeast Missourian" daily newspaper as saying: "We have to beg every year for Veterans benefits. Solutions to the funding problems, including allowing Veterans to make VA health clinics and hospitals their providers under Medicare, are being ignored."

He also urged members of the audience to accept that some people oppose the war in Iraq. "Legion members fought for the freedoms embodied in the Constitution and don't want them diminished. We respect every American's right to free speech whether they support the policy or not," Bock said.



National American Legion Commander Bock visits with WWII Army Veteran Marvin Niswonger during his April visit to the Veterans Home.

Bock's son is in Iraq, piloting a Chinook helicopter. "Dad, we are doing good things for people in Iraq" Bock quoted his son as saying.






















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Over 80,000 hours given in service to residents of the Cape Girardeau Veterans Home!

VETERAN NEWS

FINAL ROLL CALL

 <div>NAVY</div> <div>Charles Smith</div> <div>Died: 4/9/2006</div>	 <div>NAVY</div> <div>Ben Ashley</div> <div>Died: 4/25/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>James Gibbs</div> <div>Died: 5/11/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Earl Peetz</div> <div>Died: 6/11/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>William Creech</div> <div>Died: 6/26/2006</div>
 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Matthew Slivon</div> <div>Died: 4/12/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Faye Wadeking</div> <div>Died: 4/26/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Urban Winshcel</div> <div>Died: 5/31/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Bernard Crader</div> <div>Died: 6/15/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Carroll Young</div> <div>Died: 7/3/2006</div>
 <div>ARMY</div> <div>J.R. Watson</div> <div>Died: 4/15/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Raymond Chamberlain</div> <div>Died: 5/6/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Harley Rutledge</div> <div>Died: 6/5/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>John Webb</div> <div>Died: 6/23/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>William Smith</div> <div>Died: 7/4/2006</div>
 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Howard Tooke</div> <div>Died: 4/16/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Claude Price</div> <div>Died: 5/9/2006</div>	 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Richard Schirmer</div> <div>Died: 6/8/2006</div>	 <div>MARINES</div> <div>Willie Lufcy</div> <div>Died: 6/23/2006</div>	 <div>NAVY</div> <div>Willard McMickle</div> <div>Died: 7/5/2006</div>
 <div>ARMY</div> <div>Herman Hartle</div> <div>Died: 4/24/2006</div>	Taps: Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the skies. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.			

ADMISSIONS

ADMIT DATE	NAME	BRANCH OF SERVICE
4/11/2006	John Albano	ARMY AIR FORCE
4/20/2006	Eldor Lorenz	ARMY
4/24/2006	Frank Lewis	NAVY
4/26/2006	Euil Trickey	ARMY
4/28/2006	David Barks	AIR FORCE
5/2/2006	Gerald Palmer	AIR FORCE
5/3/2006	Robert Mongreig	ARMY
5/10/2006	Jack Woods	ARMY
5/16/2006	Donnie Foulk	MARINE CORPS
5/23/2006	Lawrence Galemore	NAVY
5/31/2006	Melvin Biester	ARMY
6/8/2006	George Engemann	AIR FORCE
6/14/2006	Howard Hanson	AIR FORCE
6/20/2006	Yvonne Sale	AIR FORCE
7/3/2006	Joseph Reeves	MARINE CORPS
7/5/2006	John Grove St. Clair	ARMY

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER		
NAME	DATE	BRANCH	NAME	DATE	BRANCH	NAME	DATE	BRANCH
Rusby Adams	1st	Navy	Willard Crites	7th	Navy	Lenard Myrick	16th	Navy
Robert Berry	8th	Army	George Brockhorst	9th	Army	Everett Milligan	17th	Army
Gerald Palmer	14th	Air Force	Fred Lewallen	9th	Coast Guard	Charles Goddard	18th	Army
George Engemann	15th	Air Force	Harold Dunn	10th	Marines	Eldo Farrow	21st	Army
Reuben Dickenson	19th	Navy	Linus Hulshof	11th	Army	Betty Williams	21st	Navy
Ivan Summers	23rd	Army	Charles Pewitt	12th	Army	Floyd Asberry	22nd	Navy
Glen Francis	14th	Army	Robert Ruff	13th	Army	David Barks	26th	Air Force
Herbert Seiler	25th	Army	Arthur Vann	13th	Army	Paul Poole	28th	Navy
James Abernathy	26th	Army	John Grove St. Clair	15th	Army	Marcellis Herberlie	30th	Marines/ Coast Guard
Yvonne Sale	26th	Air Force	Eleonora Brewton	21st	Navy	Walter Vinyard	30th	Army
Cecil Shelby	27th	Army	Charles Thompson	23rd	Navy			
Nancy Ford	28th	Navy	Hugh Ledure	24th	Army			
Von Hanners	28th	Army	Donald Meyers	26th	Army			

VETERAN RESIDENTS

Residents of the Month

SUMMER 2006 • 11



April 2006
Arthur M. "Art" Vann

The Cape Girardeau Missouri Veterans Home Resident Council elected Art Vann as Resident of the Month for April 2006. Mr. Vann was born in Sikeston and was a resident of Pacific, Missouri before coming to the Veterans Home in February 2006.

Congratulations to Mr. Vann on his election as April Resident of the Month.



May 2006
John W. "Bill" Webb

The Cape Girardeau Missouri Veterans Home Resident Council elected Bill Webb as Resident of the Month for May 2006. Mr. Webb was born in Jackson and was a resident of Cape Girardeau before coming to the Veterans Home in February 2006.

Congratulations to Mr. Webb on his election as May Resident of the Month.



June 2006
Betty B. Williams

The Cape Girardeau Missouri Veterans Home Resident Council elected Betty Williams as Resident of the Month for June 2006. Mr. Williams was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa and was a resident of Jackson before coming to the Veterans Home in November 2005.

Congratulations to Mrs. Williams on her election as June Resident of the Month.

Memorial Day active for residents

Several residents attended the Cape Girardeau annual Memorial Day observance at the city's Osage Center.

The featured speaker was Chief Petty Officer Sheryl R. Smith USNR. During her speech, the names of all residents of Cape Girardeau County who had died in service were projected on the wall. The names came from the Freedom Corner Memorial in the southeast corner of Capaha Park.

The program was conducted by the Cape Girardeau Joint Veterans Council. Roy Rhodes and other Joint Veterans Council members put up the Avenue of Flags in front of the Veterans Home.

In the afternoon the Veterans Home's Memorial Service was held.

Administrator Jan Rau, three years ago in her first year in the position, suggested a Veterans Home Memorial Service for residents who had died since the previous Memorial Day.

A white styrofoam cross is set up in the dining room and as deceased resident names are read, a red carnation is placed on the cross. Families are invited and several attend with a family member placing the carnation on the cross. Volunteers place the carnations for those with no family members attending.



Resident Tommy Thompson wore his Navy uniform to the Osage Center Memorial Day observance and to the service at the Veterans Home



Mrs. Winona Morgan, spouse of deceased resident Robert Morgan, places a memorial red carnation on the cross at the Veterans Home Memorial Day Service.



A red memorial carnation is placed in memory of deceased resident J.R. Watson by his daughter, Sharon Ferrell.



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VETERANS HOME 9TH ANNUAL FLAG DAY PERPETUAL TRUST BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT - FRIDAY JUNE 2, 2006

Tournament Committee: Harold Moore, Chairman; Ron Bollinger, Co-Chairman; Neal Edwards, Founder & Chairman Emeritus Members: Pete Rhodes, Caryn Michel, Charles Hutson, David Crader, Bob Williams, Ray Drury, Ralph Ebersole, "Dick" Decker

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VFW Post 3174 - Sikeston 8th Year
American Legion Post 133 - Perryville 7th Year
Rust Newspapers 7th Year
"Southeast Missourian" Sikeston "Standard Democrat"
Poplar Bluff "Daily American Republic"
Kiwanis Club - Cape Girardeau 7th Year

VFW Post 7183 - Lilbourn 6th Year
ELKS Lodge 639 - Cape Girardeau 6th Year
VFW Post Auxiliary Unit 7183 - Lilbourn 6th Year
The Bank of Missouri 5th Year
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VFW Post 4282 - Perryville 4th Year
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